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Bezeichnung der Erfindung/Title of the invention/Titre de l'invention:  
(Falls die Bezeichnung der Erfindung nicht angegeben ist, siehe Beschreibung.  
If no title is shown please refer to the description.  
Si aucun titre n'est indiqué se référer à la description.)

Hair treatment compositions

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HAIR TREATMENT COMPOSITIONS

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 The invention relates to hair treatment compositions. The compositions are particularly suitable for application to style hair and in particular to lengthen it.

BACKGROUND AND PRIOR ART

10

For centuries long hair has been a desirable attribute. To achieve this straightening devices are sold that mechanically lengthen and straighten the hair, a selection of such devices are disclosed in EP 0 511 892 and WO12/32381

15 An alternative to the above mechanical approach to lengthen the hair is to stimulate hair growth using chemical hair growth stimulants, such products are disclosed in EP 0 897 712 and WO92/07877.

20 The use of xanthines in hair and skin pigmentation is described in US 5470579. US 4931066 discloses that xanthines can be used together with other compounds in hair dyeing.

Xanthines have also been claimed as being useful in the treatment of hair loss. For example, WO 85/05270, WO 84/04038 and WO 85/05272 all disclose hair loss treatments containing caffeine or theophylline as phosphodiesterase inhibitors. A hair nourishing lotion or shampoo containing caffeine and the hair loss treatment compound minoxidil is described in JP 04-193821.

The present application discloses formulations and processes for lengthening hair. The invention has the further advantages that it prevents the hair frizzing and increasing in volume. Yet another advantage is that it increases the hair's susceptibility and hold to styling in humid conditions.

15

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In a first aspect, the present invention provides a hair treatment composition comprising:

- 20 i) an  $\alpha$ -hydroxy acid and/or its salt and;  
ii) a xanthine, a substituted xanthine or mixtures thereof

A further aspect of the invention is the use of the above composition for styling hair, in particular lengthening and increasing the high humidity style retention of the hair.

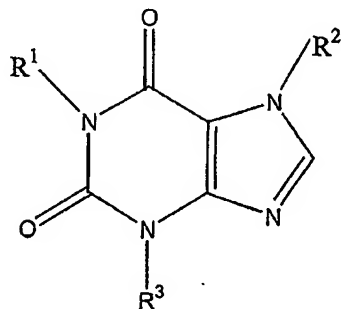
- The invention also relates to a method of treating hair by applying to the hair a composition comprising
- i) an inorganic acid, organic acid, and particularly  $\alpha$ -hydroxy acid and/or its salt and;
  - 5 ii) a xanthine, a substituted xanthine or mixtures thereof

#### Detailed Description of the Invention

The present invention is based on the finding that Xanthine and acid, in particular  $\alpha$ -hydroxy acid combinations are particularly useful in styling hair, lengthening hair and  
10 increasing the high humidity style retention.

#### Xanthines

Preferred xanthines (the term xanthines are taken as meaning  
15 xanthines and substituted xanthines) are compounds having formula I



Formula I

in which  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are independently selected from H, substituted or unsubstituted  $C_1$ - $C_5$  alkyl groups, substituted

or unsubstituted C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkenyl groups, aryl groups arylalkyl

groups or mixtures thereof,. It is preferable if the substituted groups discussed above are amine or hydroxy groups.

5

It is advantageous if R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkenyl or mixtures thereof, it is particularly preferred if R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are independently selected from H, methyl groups or mixtures thereof.

10

Most preferred are substituted xanthines such as caffeine, dyphylline, cafaminol theophylline, aminophylline and theobromine. Of these, caffeine is particularly preferred.

- 15 The Xanthines may be in the form of a salt. The cosmetically acceptable salts of the xanthines of formula (I) are salts, which are non-toxic to humans in the context of the uses according to the invention. The nature of the salt will depend on the acidic or basic groups present in the xanthines.
- 20 which will depend, in turn, on their precise structural formula. Suitable acid addition salts include, for example, hydrochlorides, sulphates, phosphate, carboxylates (including acetates, citrates, tartarates, malates, malonates, maleates, lactates, succinates, and fumarates). Suitable base salts
- 25 include, for example, ammonium salts and alkali metal salts (such as sodium and potassium salts). Suitable salts can be obtained by methods well-known to those skilled in the art.

Cosmetically acceptable solvates are similarly obtained by conventional methods. Suitable solvates include, for example, hydrates.

- 5 Xanthines can be produced synthetically or extracted from natural products, such as plant extracts. For example, certain xanthines can be obtained from cacao beans, tea leaves and cola beans. Xanthines may be used in the present invention in substantially pure form, in the form of  
10 unpurified natural extracts, or as a mixture of substantially pure form and natural extract.

Xanthines may be used in the present invention singly or together with one or more other different xanthines.

15

The hair treatment composition of the invention preferably comprises from 0.1 to 20 wt% of xanthine/substituted xanthine in the total formulation.

20  $\alpha$ -Hydroxy acid

The formulations of the invention comprise an  $\alpha$ -Hydroxy acid. The hydroxy acid and/or its salt is preferably a bis ( $\alpha$ -hydroxy acid) and/or its salt.

- 25 The  $\alpha$ -hydroxy acid can comprise one or more carboxylic acid groups, at least one of these carboxylic acid groups should have an  $\alpha$ -hydroxy group.

It is particularly preferred an  $\alpha$  -hydroxy acid and/or its salt if optically active is in the L-form such as those derived from natural sources, particularly preferred  $\alpha$  -  
5 hydroxy acid are citric acid and tartaric acid and/or their salts;

The amount of  $\alpha$  -Hydroxy acid i) is from 0.1 to 20.wt% in the total formulation.

10

The total amount of the xanthine and  $\alpha$  -Hydroxy acid in hair treatment compositions of the invention is generally from 0.2 to 40 wt%, preferably from 1 to 10 wt%, more preferably from 2 to 5 wt%.

15

The weight ratio of xanthine to  $\alpha$  -Hydroxy is preferably from 1:0.001 to 0.001:1, preferably from 1:0.01 to 0.01:1, most preferably from 3:1 to 1:3.

20

#### Product Form

The final product form of hair treatment compositions according to the invention may suitably be, for example,  
25 shampoos, conditioners, sprays, mousses, gels, waxes or lotions. Particularly preferred product forms are shampoos, post-wash conditioners (leave-in and rinse-off) and hair treatment products such as hair essences.



Shampoo compositions preferably comprise one or more cleansing surfactants which are cosmetically acceptable and suitable for topical application to the hair. Further  
5 surfactants may be present as emulsifiers.

Suitable cleansing surfactants, are selected from anionic, amphoteric and zwitterionic surfactants, and mixtures thereof. The cleansing surfactant may be the same  
10 surfactant as the emulsifier, or may be different.

#### Anionic Cleansing Surfactant

Shampoo compositions according to the invention will  
15 typically comprise one or more anionic cleansing surfactants which are cosmetically acceptable and suitable for topical application to the hair.

Examples of suitable anionic cleansing surfactants are the  
20 alkyl sulphates, alkyl ether sulphates, alkaryl sulphonates, alkanoyl isethionates, alkyl succinates, alkyl sulphosuccinates, N-alkyl sarcosinates, alkyl phosphates, alkyl ether phosphates, alkyl ether carboxylates, and alpha-olefin sulphonates, especially their sodium, magnesium,  
25 ammonium and mono-, di- and triethanolamine salts. The alkyl and acyl groups generally contain from 8 to 18 carbon atoms and may be unsaturated. The alkyl ether sulphates, alkyl ether phosphates and alkyl ether carboxylates may

~~contain from 1 to 10 ethylene oxide or propylene oxide units~~  
per molecule.

Typical anionic cleansing surfactants for use in shampoo  
5 compositions of the invention include sodium oleyl sulpho  
succinate, ammonium lauryl sulphosuccinate, ammonium lauryl  
sulphate, sodium cocoyl isethionate, sodium lauryl  
isethionate and sodium N-lauryl sarcosinate. The most  
preferred anionic surfactants are sodium lauryl sulphate,  
10 sodium lauryl ether sulphate(n)EO, (where n ranges from 1  
to 3), ammonium lauryl sulphate and ammonium lauryl ether  
sulphate(n)EO, (where n ranges from 1 to 3).

The total amount of anionic cleansing surfactant in shampoo  
15 compositions of the invention is generally from 5 to 30,  
preferably from 6 to 20, more preferably from 8 to 16 wt%.

#### Co-surfactant

20 The shampoo composition can optionally include co-  
surfactants, preferably an amphoteric or zwitterionic  
surfactant, which can be included in an amount ranging from 0  
to about 8, preferably from 1 to 4 wt%.

Examples of amphoteric and zwitterionic surfactants include, alkyl betaines, alkyl amidopropyl betaines, alkyl sulphobetaines (sultaines), alkyl glycinate, alkyl carboxyglycinates, alkyl amphopropionates, alkylamphoglycinates, alkyl amidopropyl hydroxysultaines, acyl taurates and acyl glutamates, wherein the alkyl and acyl groups have from 8 to 19 carbon atoms. Typical amphoteric and zwitterionic surfactants for use in shampoos of the invention include lauryl amine oxide, cocodimethyl sulphopropyl betaine and preferably lauryl betaine, cocamidopropyl betaine and sodium cocamphopropionate.

Another preferred co-surfactant is a nonionic surfactant, which can be included in an amount ranging from 0 to 8, preferably from 2 to 5 wt%.

For example, representative nonionic surfactants that can be included in shampoo compositions of the invention include condensation products of aliphatic ( $C_8 - C_{18}$ ) primary or secondary linear or branched chain alcohols or phenols with alkylene oxides, usually ethylene oxide and generally having from 6 to 30 ethylene oxide groups.

Further nonionic surfactants which can be included in shampoo compositions of the invention are the alkyl polyglycosides (APGs). Typically, the APG is one which comprises an alkyl  
5 group connected (optionally via a bridging group) to a block of one or more glycosyl groups. Preferred APGs are defined by the following formula:



10

wherein R is a branched or straight chain  $C_5$  to  $C_{20}$  alkyl or alkenyl group, G is a saccharide group and n is from 1 to 10.

Other sugar-derived nonionic surfactants which can be  
15 included in shampoo compositions of the invention include the  $C_{10}$ - $C_{18}$  N-alkyl ( $C_1$ - $C_6$ ) polyhydroxy fatty acid amides, such as the  $C_{12}$ - $C_{18}$  N-methyl glucamides, as described for example in WO 92 06154 and US 5 194 639, and the N-alkoxy polyhydroxy fatty acid amides, such as  $C_{10}$ - $C_{18}$  N-(3-methoxypropyl) glucamide.

20

The shampoo composition can also optionally include one or more cationic co-surfactants included in an amount ranging from 0.01 to 10, more preferably from 0.05 to 5, most

preferably from 0.05 to 2 wt%. Useful cationic surfactants are described hereinbelow in relation to conditioner compositions.

- 5 The total amount of surfactant (including any co-surfactant, and/or any emulsifier) in shampoo compositions of the invention is generally from 5 to 50, preferably from 5 to 30, more preferably from 10 to 25 wt%.

10 **Cationic Polymer**

A cationic polymer is a preferred ingredient in shampoo compositions of the invention, for enhancing conditioning performance of the shampoo.

15

Suitable cationic nitrogen polymers are described in the CTFA Cosmetic Ingredient Directory, 3rd edition

The cationic conditioning polymer will generally be present in compositions of the invention at levels of from 0.01 to 5, preferably from 0.05 to 1, more preferably from 0.08 to 0.5

20 wt%.

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Conditioning-Surfactant

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Conditioner compositions usually comprise one or more conditioning surfactants, which are cosmetically acceptable  
5 and suitable for topical application to the hair.

Suitable conditioning surfactants are selected from cationic surfactants, used singly or in admixture.

10 Cationic surfactants useful in compositions of the invention contain amino or quaternary ammonium hydrophilic moieties, which are positively charged when, dissolved in the aqueous composition of the present invention.

15 The most preferred cationic surfactants for conditioner compositions of the present invention are monoalkyl quaternary ammonium compounds in which the alkyl chain length is C16 to C22.

20 Examples of suitable cationic surfactants include quaternary ammonium compounds, particularly trimethyl quaternary compounds.

---

Preferred quaternary ammonium compounds include.

- cetyltrimethylammonium chloride, behenyltrimethylammonium chloride (BTAC), cetylpyridinium chloride, tetramethylammonium chloride, tetraethylammonium chloride,
- 5 octyltrimethylammonium chloride, dodecyltrimethylammonium chloride, hexadecyltrimethylammonium chloride, octyldimethylbenzylammonium chloride, decyldimethylbenzylammonium chloride, stearyldimethylbenzylammonium chloride,
- 10 didodecyldimethylammonium chloride, dioctadecyldimethylammonium chloride, tallowtrimethylammonium chloride, cocotrimethylammonium chloride, PEG-2 oleylammonium chloride and salts of these where the chloride is replaced by halogen, (e.g. , bromide), acetate, citrate, lactate,
- 15 glycolate, phosphate nitrate, sulphate, or alkylsulphate.
- Further suitable cationic surfactants include those materials having the CTFA designations Quaternium-5, Quaternium-31 and Quaternium-18. Mixtures of any of the foregoing materials may also be suitable. A particularly useful cationic
- 20 surfactant for use in hair conditioners of the invention is cetyltrimethylammonium chloride, available commercially, for example as GENAMIN CTAC, ex Hoechst Celanese.

~~Salts of primary, secondary, and tertiary fatty amines~~ are also suitable cationic surfactants.

In the conditioners of the invention, the level of cationic  
5 surfactant is preferably from 0.01 to 10, more preferably 0.05 to 5, most preferably 0.1 to 2 wt% of the total composition.

#### Fatty Materials

10

Conditioner compositions of the invention preferably additionally comprise fatty materials. By "fatty material" is meant a fatty alcohol, an alkoxylated fatty alcohol, a fatty acid or a mixture thereof.

15

(Or propoxylated) fatty alcohols having from about 12 to about 18 carbon atoms in the alkyl chain can be used in place of, or in addition to, the fatty alcohols themselves.

Suitable examples include ethylene glycol cetyl ether,

20 polyoxyethylene (2) stearyl ether, polyoxyethylene (4) cetyl ether, and mixtures thereof.



- 15 -

The level of fatty alcohol material in conditioners of the invention is suitably from 0.01 to 15, preferably from 0.1 to 10, and more preferably from 0.1 to 5 wt%. The weight ratio of cationic surfactant to fatty alcohol is suitably from 10:1 to 1:10, preferably from 4:1 to 1:8, optimally from 1:1 to 1:7, for example 1:3.

#### OPTIONAL INGREDIENTS

##### 10 Suspending Agents

In a preferred embodiment, the hair treatment composition, especially if it is a shampoo composition, further comprises from 0.1 to 5 wt% of a suspending agent.

15

##### Silicone Conditioning Agents

The compositions of the invention can contain, emulsified droplets of a silicone-conditioning agent, for enhancing conditioning performance.

Suitable silicones include polydiorganosiloxanes, in particular polydimethylsiloxanes which have the CTFA

~~----- designation dimethicone. Also suitable for use compositions~~  
of the invention (particularly shampoos and conditioners)  
are polydimethyl siloxanes having hydroxyl end groups, which  
have the CTFA designation dimethiconol. Also suitable for  
5 use in compositions of the invention are silicone gums  
having a slight degree of cross-linking, as are described  
for example in WO 96/31188.

A further preferred class of silicones for inclusion in  
10 shampoos and conditioners of the invention are amino  
function.

The total amount of silicone is preferably from 0.01 to 10  
%wt of the total composition more preferably from 0.3 to 5,  
15 most preferably 0.5 to 3 wt% is a suitable level.

(ii) Non-silicone Oily Conditioning Components

Compositions according to the present invention may also  
20 comprise a dispersed, non-volatile, water-insoluble oily  
conditioning agent.

By "insoluble" is meant that the material is not soluble in water (distilled or equivalent) at a concentration of 0.1% (w/w), at 25°C.

- 5    Suitable oily or fatty materials are selected from hydrocarbon oils, fatty esters and mixtures thereof.

#### Adjuvants

- 10   The compositions of the present invention may also contain adjuvants suitable for hair care. Generally such ingredients are included individually at a level of up to 2, preferably up to 1 wt% of the total composition.
- 15   Suitable hair care adjuvants, include amino acids, sugars and ceramides.

#### Styling Polymers

- 20   The hair styling polymer is preferably present in the compositions of the invention in an amount of from 0.001% to 10% by weight, more preferably from 0.1% to 10% by weight, such as from 1% to 8% by weight.

- 25   Hair styling polymers are well known. Suitable hair styling polymers include commercially available polymers that contain

~~moieties that render the polymers cationic, anionic,~~  
amphoteric or nonionic in nature. Suitable hair styling  
polymers include, for example, block and graft copolymers.  
The polymers may be synthetic or naturally derived.

5

Examples of anionic hair styling polymers are:

copolymers of vinyl acetate and crotonic acid;

10

terpolymers of vinyl acetate, crotonic acid and a vinyl  
ester of an alpha-branched saturated aliphatic monocarboxylic  
acid such as vinyl neodecanoate;

15

copolymers of methyl vinyl ether and maleic anhydride  
(molar ratio about 1:1) wherein such copolymers are 50%  
esterified with a saturated alcohol containing from 1 to 4  
carbon atoms such as ethanol or butanol;

20

acrylic copolymers containing acrylic acid or  
methacrylic acid as the anionic radical-containing moiety  
with other monomers such as: esters of acrylic or  
methacrylic acid with one or more saturated alcohols having  
from 1 to 22 carbon atoms (such as methyl methacrylate,  
ethyl acrylate, ethyl methacrylate, n-butyl acrylate, t-  
butyl acrylate, t-butyl methacrylate, n-butyl methacrylate,  
n-hexyl acrylate, n-octyl acrylate, lauryl methacrylate and  
behenyl acrylate); glycols having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms  
(such as hydroxypropyl methacrylate and hydroxyethyl  
acrylate); styrene; vinyl caprolactam; vinyl acetate;

30

acrylamide; alkyl acrylamides and methacrylamides having 1  
to 8 carbon atoms in the alkyl group (such as

methacrylamide, t-butyl acrylamide and n-octyl acrylamide);  
and other compatible unsaturated monomers. ...

The additional styling polymer may also contain grafted  
silicone, such as polydimethylsiloxane.

5

Specific examples of suitable anionic hair styling polymers  
are:

RESYN® 28-2930 available from National Starch (vinyl  
10 acetate/crotonic acid/vinyl neodecanoate copolymer);

ULTRAHOLD® 8 available from BASF (CTFA designation  
Acrylates/acrylamide copolymer);

15 the GANTREZ®ES series available from ISP Corporation  
esterified copolymers of methyl vinyl ether and maleic  
anhydride).

Other suitable anionic hair styling polymers include  
20 carboxylated polyurethanes. Carboxylated polyurethane resins  
are linear, hydroxyl-terminated copolymers having pendant  
carboxyl groups. They may be ethoxylated and/or propoxylated  
at least at one terminal end. The carboxyl group can be a  
carboxylic acid group or an ester group, wherein the alkyl  
25 moiety of the ester group contains one to three carbon atoms.  
The carboxylated polyurethane resin can also be a copolymer  
of polyvinylpyrrolidone and a polyurethane, having a CTFA  
designation PVP/polycarbamyl polyglycol ester. Suitable  
carboxylated polyurethane resins are disclosed in EP-A-  
30 0619111 and US Patent No. 5,000,955. Other suitable

~~hydrophilic polyurethanes are disclosed in US Patent Nos.~~  
3,822,238; 4,156,066; 4,156,067; 4,255,550; and 4,743,673.

Amphoteric hair styling polymers which can contain cationic  
5 groups derived from monomers such as t-butyl aminoethyl  
methacrylate as well as carboxyl groups derived from  
monomers such as acrylic acid or methacrylic acid can also  
be used in the present invention. One specific example of  
an amphoteric hair styling polymer is Amphomer®  
10 (Octylacrylamide/ acrylates/butylaminoethyl methacrylate  
copolymer) sold by the National Starch and Chemical  
Corporation.

Examples of nonionic hair styling polymers are homopolymers  
15 of N- vinylpyrrolidone and copolymers of N-vinylpyrrolidone  
with compatible nonionic monomers such as vinyl acetate.  
Nonionic polymers containing N- vinylpyrrolidone in various  
weight average molecular weights are available commercially  
from ISP Corporation - specific examples of such materials  
20 are homopolymers of N-vinylpyrrolidone having an average  
molecular weight of about 630,000 sold under the name PVP K-  
90 and are homopolymers of N-vinylpyrrolidone having an  
average molecular weight of about 1,000,000 sold under the  
name of PVP K-120.

25

Other suitable nonionic hair styling polymers are cross-  
linked silicone resins or gums. Specific examples include  
rigid silicone polymers such as those described in EP-A-  
0240350 and cross-linked silicone gums such as those  
30 described in WO 96/31188.

Examples of cationic hair styling polymers are copolymers of amino-functional acrylate monomers such as lower alkyl aminoalkyl acrylate, or methacrylate monomers such as dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate, with compatible monomers  
5 such as N-vinylpyrrolidone, vinyl caprolactam, alkyl methacrylates (such as methyl methacrylate and ethyl methacrylate) and alkyl acrylates (such as ethyl acrylate and n-butyl acrylate).

10 Specific examples of suitable cationic polymers are:

copolymers of N-vinylpyrrolidone and dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate, available from ISP Corporation as Copolymer 845, Copolymer 937 and Copolymer 958;

15

copolymers of N-vinylpyrrolidone and dimethylaminopropylacrylamide or methacrylamide, available from ISP Corporation as Styleze® CC10;

20 copolymers of N-vinylpyrrolidine and dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate;

copolymers of vinylcaprolactam, N-vinylpyrrolidone and dimethylaminoethylmethacrylate;

25

Polyquaternium-4 (a copolymer of diallyldimonium chloride and hydroxyethylcellulose);

Polyquaternium-11 (formed by the reaction of diethyl

30

sulphate and a copolymer of vinyl pyrrolidone and dimethyl aminoethylmethacrylate), available from ISP as

~~Gafquat®-734, -755 and -755N, and from BASF as Luviquat®~~  
PQ11;

Polyquaternium-16 (formed from methylvinylimidazolium  
5 chloride and vinylpyrrolidone), available from BASF as  
Luviquat® FC 370, FC 550, FC 905 and HM-552;

Polyquaternium-46 (prepared by the reaction of  
vinylcaprolactam and vinylpyrrolidone with  
10 methylvinylimidazolium methosulphate), available from BASF  
as Luviquat®Hold.

Examples of suitable naturally-derived polymers include  
shellac, alginates, gelatins, pectins, cellulose derivatives  
15 and chitosan or salts and derivatives thereof. Commercially  
available examples include Kytamer® (ex Amerchol) and Amaze®  
(ex National Starch).

Also suitable for use as additional styling polymers in the  
20 compositions of the invention are the ionic copolymers  
described in WO 93/03703, the polysiloxane-grafted polymers  
disclosed in WO 93/23446, the silicone-containing  
polycarboxylic acid copolymers described in WO 95/00106 or  
WO 95/32703, the thermoplastic elastomeric copolymers  
25 described in WO 95/01383, WO 95/06078, WO 95/06079 and WO  
95/01384, the silicone grafted adhesive polymers disclosed  
in WO 95/04518 or WO 95/05800, the silicone macro-grafted  
copolymers taught in WO 96/21417, the silicone macromers of  
WO 96/32918, the adhesive polymers of WO 98/48770 or WO  
30 98/48771 or WO 98/48772 or WO 98/48776, the graft polymers



of WO 98/51261 and the grafted copolymers described in WO 98/51755.

The invention will now be further illustrated by the  
5 following, non-limiting Examples.

Examples of the invention are illustrated by a number,

Comparative Examples are illustrated by a letter.

All percentages quoted are by weight based on total weight unless otherwise stated.

10

EXAMPLES

Examples A,B, 1 and 2

Formulations according to the invention are given below:

Chemical Name	Example A	Example 1	Example B	Example 2
Cetearyl Alcohol -CSA	0g	0	5.00	5.00
Cetrimonium Chloride - CTAC	0	0	1.30	1.30
Glyceryl Stearate	0	0	0.60	0.60
Methyl Paraben	0	0	0.20	0.20
Mineral Oil	0	0	0.30	0.30
Glycerin	0	0	1.0	1.0
DC 1784 silicone	0	0	1.30	1.30
Perfume	0	0	0.30	0.30
Caffeine	0	1	0	1
L-Tartatic Acid	0	3	0	3
Water and minors	100%	To 100%	To 100%	To 100%

#### Experimental Methodology

5

Set of swatches of hair were made from naturally curly hair. The initial length of all the swatches were measured before the treatment by taking a photograph and using a ruler ( $L_0$ ). The swatches were cleaned using a base shampoo. The

10 treatment protocol was as follows. All swatches were treated twice with 9%w/w of a shampoo by massaging the shampoo into the hair for 30 seconds and then rinsing for 30 seconds. Thereafter, 18%w/w of a conditioner was applied by massaging it to the hair for 60 seconds and then rinsing it

15 for 60 seconds. Thereafter, the switches were treated with

Examples 1 and A by soaking the switch in these Examples for 15 minutes, shaking off excess water and finally combing it before leaving it to dry at 20°C, 50RH for 3hours. At this stage the length of the swatches were measured ( $L_1$ ).

- 5 Furthermore, a final length of the swatches ( $L_1$ ) were measured after exposure to 30°C, 80RH for 3hours.

- For Examples 2 and B the switches were treated with 9%w/w of these products by massaging them into the hair switches,  
10 combing these switches straight and leaving them to dry. All swatches after treatment were dried under controlled environment of 20°C, 50RH for 3hours.

- Once the swatches were dry their length was measured again  
15 and the swatches were moved to a new environment of 30°C and 80RH for 3 hours. A third and final measurement of the length of the swatches was made. In case of treatment of swatches with Examples B and 2, the comparisons were made after 8 treatment cycles.

20

The following formula was used for converting the length measurements into % lengthening against control (Example A or Example B). The results are shown in the table below.

$$\% \text{Lengthening}_{20^{\circ}\text{C}, 50\text{RH}} = \left[ \left( \frac{L_{1i} - L_{0i}}{L_{1i}} \right) - \left( \frac{L_{1j} - L_{0j}}{L_{1j}} \right) \right] * 100$$

where, i stands for Examples according to the invention (1 and 2) and j stands for the comparative Examples (A and B), respectively.

5

Formulation	% Lengthening after drying @20°C, 50RH	% Lengthening after exposure @30°C, 80RH
Example 1 vs Example A	13.86	9.67
Example 2 vs Example B	7.74	6.72

Examples C, D, E, F, 3 and 4

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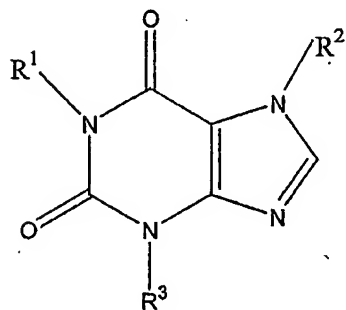
Solutions were formulated each containing 1% by weight of the examples. Hair curls were made up using perming rods and 30cm length hair. The curls were placed in the solution for 1 hour, rinsed thoroughly with distilled water and  
15 dried for 30 minutes. The hair was removed from the curling rod and the length of the curl measured.

The hair was hung in high humidity environmental chamber (90%RH, 30°C) with fan agitation for 1 minute and measured again.

Experiment	Styling Compound	Weight Percent	Solvent	Comments	Curl Drop Out Value (% increase in length) Drop Out Value (% increase in length)
Negative Control	Water	100%	Water		64
Positive Control	Commercial Hairspray	N/A	N/A	At least 2 actuations of spray applied to each side of curl	45.4
Example C	Caffeine	1%	Water	/	48
Example D	Caffeine	5% (at 50°C)	Water	/	45.8
Example E	Citric Acid	1%	Water	/	49
Example F	Citric Acid	5%	Water	/	37.5
Example 3	Caffeine + Citric Acid	1% of each (at room temperature)	Water	/	35
Example 4	Caffeine + Citric Acid	5% of each (at 50°C)	Water	/	16.8

CLAIMS

1. A hair treatment composition comprising:
- 5 i) an  $\alpha$  -hydroxy acid, its salt or mixtures thereof and;
- ii) a xanthine, substituted xanthine or mixtures thereof.
2. A hair treatment composition according to claim 1 in
- 10 which the substituted xanthine ii) has the following formula:



- in which  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are independently selected from H,
- 15 substituted or unsubstituted  $C_1$ - $C_5$  alkyl groups,
- substituted or unsubstituted  $C_2$ - $C_5$  alkenyl groups, aryl
- groups, arylalkyl groups or mixtures thereof,

~~3. A hair treatment composition according to claim 2~~

in which the in which  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  of the xanthine ii) are independently selected from H,  $C_1-C_5$  alkyl groups,  $C_2-C_5$  alkenyl or mixtures thereof.

5

4. A hair treatment composition according to claim 3 in which  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  of ii) are independently selected from H, methyl groups or mixtures thereof.

10 5. A hair treatment composition according to any preceding claim in which the xanthine derivative ii) is caffeine.

6. A hair treatment composition according to any preceding claim in which the  $\alpha$  -hydroxy acid and/or its salt i) is a  
15 citric acid and/or its salt.

7. A hair treatment composition according to any one of claims 1 to 5 in which the  $\alpha$  -hydroxy acid and/or its salt i) is a bis ( $\alpha$  -hydroxy acid) and/or its salt.

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8. A hair treatment composition according to claim 7 in which the an  $\alpha$  -hydroxy acid i) is tartaric acid or its salt.

9. A hair treatment composition according to any preceding claim in which the an  $\alpha$  -hydroxy acid and/or its salt if optically active is in the L-form.
- 5 10. A hair treatment composition according to any preceding claim in which the total amount of acid/salt i) is from 0.1 to 20 wt% in the total formulation.
11. A hair treatment composition according to any preceding  
10 claim in which the total amount xanthine ii) is from 0.1 to 20 wt% in the total formulation.
12. A hair treatment composition according to any preceding claim further comprising a surfactant.
- 15
13. A hair treatment composition according to any preceding claim which comprises a cationic or silicone based conditioning agent.
- 20 14. A hair treatment composition according to any preceding claim which further comprises a styling agent.



- 15. A hair treatment composition according to any preceding  
claim which comprises an aqueous base.
16. Use of a composition according to any preceding claim.  
5 for styling the hair.
17. Use of a composition according to any preceding claim  
for lengthening the hair.
- 10 18. Use of a composition according to any one of claims 1  
to 14 for increasing the high humidity style retention  
of hair.
- 15 19. A method of treating hair by applying to the hair a  
composition comprising  
i) an inorganic acid, organic acid, and particularly  
 $\alpha$ -hydroxy acid and/or its salt and;  
ii) a xanthine, a substituted xanthine or mixtures  
thereof

ABSTRACT

The invention provides a hair treatment composition such as  
a shampoo or conditioner suitable for topical application to  
5 style hair and in particular to lengthening the hair. The  
composition comprises  
an  $\alpha$  -hydroxy acid and/or its salt and a xanthine preferably  
having the following formula:

